Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—There are elections and contested elections.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Are not time and energy wasted by the repeated adjournments?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—If the adjournments are inevitable, time and energy spent will also be inevitable.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Do not these elections affect very seriously the legitimate revenue work of the Tahsildars?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I cannot say that it affects the revenue work of the Tahsildars. But certainly it takes away their time. Time spent there is time taken away from here.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—How is it that the Tahsildars are appointed to conduct the elections when there is already a Panchayat Department?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—That is the statutory rule. Probably it might be due to the greater familiarity as the executive head of the Pattadars of the village.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(i) Is it not in the election fever that they do not consider it to be a waste?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I have not much experience of it.

Standard weights and measures.

296. **Mr. P. Krishna Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Commissioner of Police or any other authority has enquired into the matter of the existence of different kinds of stamped parahs (measures) used in the State, after 8th Kumbham 1109 (Vide Volume 6, part 6, page 463 of the Council Proceedings);

(b) is it not a fact that in Trichur a parah of larger dimensions is used than the one used in the Talappalli Taluk;

(c) do the Government think the existence of such various measures conducive to the fair dealings in the market;

(d) what steps do the Government propose to take, if any, to bring about uniformity which was the aim of legislation on the subject?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) No difference in stamped parahs (measures) has been brought to notice. Weights and measures used by merchants are periodically checked by the Police and the Magistracy and when any un-stamped measures are found out, persons found using them are brought to book.

(b) Stamped parahs are of the same capacity in all the Taluks but some private persons seem to use different kinds of

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parahs in different places without recognition by the Government. But they are not used for purposes of trade.

(c) It is not conducive to the fair dealings in the markets.

(d) The Government have already prescribed standard weights and measures and all measures and weights which are not duly stamped are taken into custody and the dealers who use such measures dealt with according to law.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—May I know, Sir, whether the authorities have enquired into the matter or not?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—No such thing have been brought to my notice.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Can the Government assure the House that there are no measures of different capacities and standards stamped by the Government?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—To the best of my knowledge they have not been stamped.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to enquire in Talappalli, Trichur and Chittur Taluks whether there are parahs of different capacities stamped by the Government?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I shall be glad to look into it.

Shifting of a toll-gate.

297. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Adverting to the footnote at page 1021 of the Gazette of 27th Edavam 1099 will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the proposal to shift the said toll-gate has been accepted or rejected ;

(b) if accepted, where to is it to be shifted and why, at that place;

(c) if rejected what is the ground of objection;

(d) do not the Government realise that the establishing of Government toll-gates on roads constructed by Panchayat will prevent the free surrender, as is generally done, of lands to Panchayats to open roads;

(e) what is the objection to Government to restrict Government tolls to trunk roads constructed and maintained by Government;

(f) have any arrangements been made with regard to the three other toll-gates on Panchayat roads?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) The question is under consideration of Government.

(b) and (c). No answer is necessary in view of the answer to (a).

(d) Government do not think so in view of the object with which tolls are collected.

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